

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the claims be reconsidered.

Claims 60-98 are pending in the application and are presented for examination.

Claims 60-76 and 79-98 were found by the Office to be allowable. (See Office Action of May 7, 2002, Paper No. 42, page 2, item 5.)

Claims 77 and 78 were objected to as being improper multiple dependent claims. Claim 77 has been amended to remove the dependency on claim 1, and therefore is no longer a multiple dependent claim. Claim 78 depends only from claim 77 and, therefore, is no longer a multiple dependent claim. Because the amendment to claim 77 obviates the objection to it and to claim 78, Applicants request that the objection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: 

Kenneth J. Meyers

Reg. No. 25,146

Pone: (202) 408-4000

Fax: (202) 408-4400

E-mail: Ken.Meyers@finnegan.com

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

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Appendix to the Amendment of August 6, 2002

77. (AMENDED) Process as claimed in claim 72, wherein said process comprises the step of detecting a label bonded to said DNA [claimed in claim 1].

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HENDERSON
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GARRETT &
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